Federal Communications Commission 45 L Street, N.E. Washington, D.C. 20554

News Media Information 202 / 418-0500 Internet: https://www.fcc.gov TTY: 1-888-835-5322

DA 20-1352

Released: November 16, 2020

## WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU AUTHORIZES ALL ELIGIBLE PRICE CAP CARRIERS TO RECEIVE A SEVENTH YEAR OF CONNECT AMERICA FUND PHASE II MODEL-BASED SUPPORT

## WC Docket No. 10-90

Today, the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) announces that all eligible price cap carriers that currently receive Connect America Phase II support based on the Connect America Cost Model (CAM) elected to receive an additional, seventh year of such support. Upon issuance of this Public Notice, the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) is directed and authorized to obligate and disburse from the Universal Service Fund the amounts identified in Attachment A to the respective carriers beginning January 2021.

Consistent with the Commission's direction in the *Rural Digital Opportunity Fund Order*,<sup>1</sup> in July the Bureau released a Public Notice establishing the process by which eligible price cap carriers could elect to receive an additional year of model-based support.<sup>2</sup> Carriers had until September 28, 2020 to indicate, on a state-by-state basis, whether they would continue to receive model-based support for 2021.<sup>3</sup> Each price cap carrier listed in Attachment A submitted a letter signed by an officer of the company confirming that it elected to receive the model-based support amounts as specified in the July Public Notice.<sup>4</sup> In exchange for receiving this seventh year of support from January 2021 through December 2021, these carriers are "required to continue providing broadband with performance

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Rural Digital Opportunity Fund; Connect America Fund, WC Docket Nos. 19-126, 10-90, Report and Order, 35 FCC Rcd 686, 740-42, paras. 127, 129 (2020) (Rural Digital Opportunity Fund Order).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Wireline Competition Bureau Announces Deadline for Price Cap Carriers to Elect Seventh Year of Connect America Fund Phase II Model-Based Support, Public Notice, 35 FCC Rcd 7954 (WCB 2020) (Seventh Year Election PN).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See Seventh Year Election PN, 35 FCC Rcd at 7954.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See id. at 7956-63. In May 2020, Northwest Fiber, LLC d/b/a Ziply Fiber (Ziply) acquired properties from Frontier Communications Corporation in Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington. See Applications Filed for the Transfer of Control of Certain Subsidiaries of Frontier Communications Corporation to Northwest Fiber, LLC, WC Docket No. 19-188, Memorandum Opinion and Order and Declaratory Ruling, 34 FCC Rcd 12344 (IB/WCB/WTB 2019). As part of this transaction, Ziply assumed Frontier's ongoing CAF Phase II obligations in these four states. See id. at 12352-53, n.79. Ziply elected to receive a seventh year of model-based support in these states. See Letter from Byron E. Springer, Jr., General Counsel, Northwest Fiber, LLC, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC (Aug. 25, 2020).

characteristics that remain reasonably comparable to the performance characteristics of terrestrial fixed broadband service in urban America."<sup>5</sup>

For additional information on this proceeding, contact Ian Forbes, <u>Ian.Forbes@fcc.gov</u> of the Wireline Competition Bureau, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, (202) 418-7400.

- FCC -

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Rural Digital Opportunity Fund Order, 35 FCC Rcd at 741-42, para. 129 (citing Connect America Fund et al., WC Docket No. 10-90 et al., Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 26 FCC Rcd 17663, 17726-27, para. 163 (2011), aff'd sub nom. In re FCC 11-161, 753 F.3d 1015 (10th Cir. 2014)).

Attachment A
CACM Authorized Annual Support by State

State	Carrier	Authorized Annual Support
AL	AT&T INC.	\$ 23,161,780
AL	CENTURYLINK, INC.	\$ 17,290,009
AL	FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION	\$ 2,998,480
AL	WINDSTREAM HOLDINGS, INC.	\$ 511,038
AR	AT&T INC.	\$ 21,350,835
AR	CENTURYLINK, INC.	\$ 19,761,508
AR	WINDSTREAM HOLDINGS, INC.	\$ 13,163,783
AZ	CENTURYLINK, INC.	\$ 10,089,092
AZ	FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION	\$ 13,281,066
CA	AT&T INC.	\$ 60,240,434
CA	CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	\$ 14,837
CA	FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION	\$ 38,074,824
СО	CENTURYLINK, INC.	\$ 26,509,143
СТ	FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION	\$ 435,139
FL	AT&T INC.	\$ 8,485,813
FL	CENTURYLINK, INC.	\$ 10,916,671
FL	CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	\$ 2,660,998
FL	FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION	\$ 342,490
FL	WINDSTREAM HOLDINGS, INC.	\$ 5,236,626
GA	AT&T INC.	\$ 25,345,199
GA	CENTURYLINK, INC.	\$ 269,719
GA	FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION	\$ 375,826
GA	WINDSTREAM HOLDINGS, INC.	\$ 24,867,807
HI	CINCINNATI BELL INC.	\$ 4,424,319
IA	CENTURYLINK, INC.	\$ 17,893,887
IA	FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION	\$ 4,240,587
IA	MUTUAL TELEPHONE COMPANY (IA)	\$ 2,184,040
IA	WINDSTREAM HOLDINGS, INC.	\$ 28,672,554
IA	WINNEBAGO COOPERATIVE TELECOM ASSN.	\$ 209,176
ID	CENTURYLINK, INC.	6,279,869
ID	NORTHWEST FIBER, LLC	\$ 5,223,121
IL	AT&T INC.	\$ 8,932,507
IL	CENTURYLINK, INC.	\$ 2,093,982
IL	CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	\$ 8,084,857

IL	FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION	\$ 31,017,498
IN	AT&T INC.	\$ 17,576,788
IN	CENTURYLINK, INC.	\$ 10,736,352
IN	FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION	\$ 22,815,087
KS	AT&T INC.	\$ 18,942,367
KS	CENTURYLINK, INC.	\$ 16,501,327
KY	AT&T INC.	\$ 30,962,548
KY	CINCINNATI BELL INC.	\$ 2,034,186
KY	WINDSTREAM HOLDINGS, INC.	\$ 21,576,987
LA	AT&T INC.	\$ 27,907,591
LA	CENTURYLINK, INC.	\$ 9,471,015
ME	CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	\$ 13,289,220
MI	AT&T INC.	\$ 29,750,677
MI	CENTURYLINK, INC.	\$ 9,028,031
MI	FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION	\$ 21,733,859
MN	CENTURYLINK, INC.	\$ 54,035,150
MN	CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	\$ 2,516,502
MN	FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION	\$ 27,551,363
MN	WINDSTREAM HOLDINGS, INC.	\$ 1,519,855
MO	CENTURYLINK, INC.	\$ 74,927,427
MO	CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	\$ 1,689,794
MO	WINDSTREAM HOLDINGS, INC.	\$ 14,187,910
MP	PTI PACIFICA INC.	\$ 2,627,177
MS	AT&T INC.	\$ 49,772,592
MS	FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION	\$ 816,996
MS	WINDSTREAM HOLDINGS, INC.	\$ 917,403
MT	CENTURYLINK, INC.	\$ 15,195,628
MT	NORTHWEST FIBER, LLC	\$ 1,114,484
NC	AT&T INC.	\$ 3,498,889
NC	CENTURYLINK, INC.	\$ 10,008,390
NC	FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION	\$ 3,596,156
NC	WINDSTREAM HOLDINGS, INC.	\$ 1,952,082
ND	CENTURYLINK, INC.	\$ 5,656,741
NE	CENTURYLINK, INC.	\$ 6,888,416
NE	FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION	\$ 2,735,761
NE	WINDSTREAM HOLDINGS, INC.	\$ 13,591,437
NH	CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	\$ 4,376,606
NJ	CENTURYLINK, INC.	\$ 450,340

NM	CENTURYLINK, INC.	\$ 10,942,747
NM	FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS	\$ 4,426,327
	CORPORATION	
NV	CENTURYLINK, INC.	\$ 1,072,346
NV	FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION	\$ 1,379,494
NY	CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	\$ 2,568,269
NY	FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION	\$ 17,381,485
NY	WINDSTREAM HOLDINGS, INC.	\$ 1,557,976
ОН	AT&T INC.	\$ 14,802,500
ОН	CENTURYLINK, INC.	\$ 15,982,805
ОН	CINCINNATI BELL INC.	\$ 194,944
ОН	CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	\$ 420,997
ОН	FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION	\$ 22,927,850
ОН	WINDSTREAM HOLDINGS, INC.	\$ 4,154,270
OK	CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	\$ 215,303
OK	WINDSTREAM HOLDINGS, INC.	\$ 7,788,213
OR	CENTURYLINK, INC.	\$ 17,759,903
OR	NORTHWEST FIBER, LLC	\$ 3,897,357
PA	CENTURYLINK, INC.	\$ 10,562,353
PA	CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	\$ 239,836
PA	FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION	\$ 3,891,253
PA	WINDSTREAM HOLDINGS, INC.	\$ 13,001,364
SC	AT&T INC.	\$ 9,689,453
SC	CENTURYLINK, INC.	\$ 2,952,228
SC	FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION	\$ 2,709,651
SC	WINDSTREAM HOLDINGS, INC.	\$ 935,383
SD	CENTURYLINK, INC.	\$ 9,117,215
TN	AT&T INC.	\$ 26,137,862
TN	CENTURYLINK, INC.	\$ 1,662,828
TN	FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION	\$ 2,126,605
TX	AT&T INC.	\$ 42,078,424
TX	CENTURYLINK, INC.	\$ 11,300,418
TX	CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	\$ 1,915,321
TX	FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION	\$ 16,576,929
TX	WINDSTREAM HOLDINGS, INC.	\$ 21,260,790
UT	CENTURYLINK, INC.	\$ 1,894,802
UT	FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION	\$ 2,547,047
VA	CENTURYLINK, INC.	\$ 15,731,765
	1 ' 1	· - ,· - ,· <del></del>

VA	WILKES TELEPHONE MEMBERSHIP CORPORATION	\$ 857,021
VT	CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	\$ 8,789,359
WA	CENTURYLINK, INC.	\$ 24,412,884
WA	CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	\$ 1,321,014
WA	NORTHWEST FIBER, LLC	\$ 8,688,054
WI	AT&T INC.	\$ 9,070,392
WI	CENTURYLINK, INC.	\$ 55,384,589
WI	FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION	\$ 30,983,715
WV	FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION	\$ 38,068,337
Sub-Total		\$ 1,497,972,328